

It is the political, economic and moral—yes, I repeat, moral issue of our day.

#### REPEALING GAS TAX WILL HELP AMERICANS AT LOWEST RUNG ON ECONOMIC LADDER

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to my good friend and colleague from California and her editorial cartoon that she brought out, but I thought she and other Members on the liberal side of the aisle would be interested in this statement from President Clinton when he was freed from the strictures of campaign fever.

"It", raising the minimum wage, "is the wrong way to raise the incomes of low-wage earners." So said the President in Time magazine February 6 of last year.

Mr. Speaker, the challenge for us is not to prescribe some artificial wage mandated by Government. The challenge for us is to allow hard-working Americans to hang on to more of the money they earn and send less of it to the Federal Government, beginning with this regressive, horrible Clinton tax on gasoline. Let us repeal that today in true bipartisan fashion and that will help American workers at the lowest rung of the economic ladder and on up.

#### MANHATTAN JUDGE OKAYS TAX BREAKS FOR PEDOPHILES

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, a Manhattan judge has okayed tax breaks for pedophiles. The judge upheld the tax exempt status for Zymurgy, Inc., an organization that advocates sex between men and boys. The judge ruled freedom of speech extends even to those who advocate man-boy sex.

Mr. Speaker, where did this judge get his law degree, the back cover of Bazooka bubble gum trading cards or what? Will America, now Congress, subsidize pedophilia?

The truth of the matter is some of these judges have become so book smart, they are actually street dumb. I think it is time for Congress to take a look at some of this judicial branch decision-making process. Sounds pretty constipating to me.

#### IT IS TIME TO REPEAL REGRESSIVE GAS TAX

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I once again return to the point I have been

making since I got here, and that is that working families in this country are taxed far, far too much. Working families are being ripped off by the Federal Government and by the special interests that demand more and more money and higher and higher taxes.

So I am glad to hear the rumors that the President may at least be willing to roll back the ill-conceived gas tax that he imposed a couple of years back. That gas tax was part of the biggest tax increase in history, a tax increase that even the President later admitted was a mistake.

The President and the old Congress thought that higher taxes would fuel the economy, but a lot of working families are just about running on empty. Taxes are too high. Let us quit siphoning an extra 50, or 60 or 70 cents out of the pockets of American citizens each time they fill up their gas tanks. Let us agree right now, in a bipartisan way, to repeal this ridiculous regressive gas tax and ensure Americans get more mileage out of their own paychecks. It is time to cut taxes and get the lead out.

#### CONGRESS SUPPORTS HEAD START WITH \$36 MILLION OVER FISCAL YEAR 1995

(Mr. BROWN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago, I had the great pleasure of being a guest of some of my youngest constituents at the Dorothy Grant and William Bell Head Start Preschool Centers in Fontana, CA. I salute the dedicated staff and outstanding students of these two centers.

Since its enactment in 1965, Head Start has provided comprehensive child development services to more than 12 million low-income preschool children and their families.

I was proud to vote for this legislation in 1965, and I am proud of the accomplishments it is still making. While the thrust of Head Start is the same as it was 30 years ago, the program has evolved greatly and now encompasses more community and parental support.

Head Start has a proven role in reducing drop outs, providing accesses to health care, and assisting in preventing delinquency.

I applaud supportive Members of Congress for their recent work in the budget negotiations to fund head Start at \$36 million over and above fiscal year 1995. This action shows our strong commitment to providing a solid footing in educating our children.

#### OSHA SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, last week my office received a copy of a let-

ter which the AFL-CIO is circulating to Members of Congress opposing the Small Business OSHA Relief Act, H.R. 3234.

Not surprisingly, the letter never mentions the fact that every single item in the Small Business OSHA Relief Act has been taken directly from policy pronouncements of the Clinton administration. The AFL-CIO has shown how extreme its own agenda is when it opposes this very modest legislation, which is limited in scope and represents areas of agreement between the Clinton administration's initiatives and our desire to make OSHA less adversarial and more commonsensical.

The Clinton administration has repeatedly said that OSHA needs to be reinvented. But will the Clinton administration have the backbone to stand by its own words and initiatives when the AFL-CIO comes calling?

#### CONGRESS SHOULD BRING MINIMUM WAGE TO VOTE

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would urge Speaker GINGRICH and the Republican leadership to let us vote on an increase in the minimum wage. In my State of New Jersey the minimum wage was increased to \$5.05 an hour, two Princeton University economists, David Card and Alan Kruger, surveyed patterns in fast food restaurants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania after the minimum wage went into effect. The result suggested a moderate hike, much like the one President Clinton is proposing, has actually increased total employment.

The reason is that minimum wage earners do not have the ability to save. They spend their money on basic necessities, and raising the minimum wage put more money into our local economy. The money was spent to purchase more goods, adding eventually to an increase in profits for our local businesses. The fast food industry that Card and Kruger studied found most of the people earning the minimum wage were the same people who used that increase to in fact buy more fast food.

So the bottom line is a higher minimum wage increased economic activities in New Jersey. It is supported by the President and supported by most Members in both the House and the Senate, and the leadership of the Republican Party should bring it up for a vote now.

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#### A SEAT ON THE COURT FOR \$10 MILLION

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, \$10 million is not a big deal to most liberal Democrats. But to Bill Clinton it's just